

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Previously Presented) The toy of claim 5 wherein each of said free ends includes a magnet.
3. (Previously Presented) The toy of claim 5 wherein said tubular member is constructed of stuffed fabric.
4. (Canceled)
5. (Currently Amended) A toy comprising:
a linking loop type structure having an elongated tubular member with a pair of opposite free ends, said tubular member being formed substantially in the shape of a closed loop configuration with said free ends adjacent to one another, said tubular member further being constructed of a material of sufficient stiffness and memory to cause said tubular member to assume and maintain said substantially closed loop configuration when said tubular member is unstressed, each of said ends including at least one of a magnet or a material attracted to a magnet, said magnet or a material attracted to a magnet of said free ends being attracted to one another to assist in maintaining said tubular member in its closed loop configuration, the structure further including a retaining sack stitched to said tubular member wherein said at least one magnet or a material attracted to a magnet is retained within said sack.
6. (Previously Presented) The toy of claim 5 wherein said closed loop configuration is a circular configuration.
7. (Previously Presented) The toy of claim 5 wherein said tubular member is flexible.

8. (Previously Presented) The toy of claim 5 wherein said at least one magnet or a material attracted to a magnet is embedded within its respective free ends.

9. (Currently Amended) A toy comprising:

a plurality of linking loop type structures connected together, each of said structures having an elongated tubular member with a pair of opposite free ends, said tubular member being formed substantially in the shape of a closed loop configuration with said free ends adjacent to one another, said tubular member further being constructed of a material of sufficient stiffness and memory to cause said tubular member to assume and maintain said substantially closed loop configuration when said tubular member is unstressed, each of said ends including at least one of a magnet or a material attracted to a magnet to assist in maintaining said tubular member in its closed loop configuration, said plurality of structures being interconnectable with the tubular member of one structure extending through the closed loop configuration of another structure.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously Presented) The play accessory of claim 9 wherein each of said free ends includes a magnet.

12. (Previously Presented) The play accessory of claim 9 wherein said tubular member is constructed of stuffed fabric.

13. (Currently Amended) The play accessory of claim 9 wherein said at least one magnet or material attracted to a magnet is retained within ~~said~~ a sack.

14. (Currently Amended) A play accessory comprising:

an elongated tubular structure having a pair of free ends and one of a magnet or a material attracted to a magnet positioned at each of said free ends, said tubular member being of sufficient flexibility to be formed into a closed loop structure with said free ends adjacent to one another and being constructed of a material of sufficient stiffness and memory to cause said

tubular member to assume and maintain said substantially closed loop configuration when said tubular member is unstressed, said one of a magnet or material attracted to a magnet retained within a sack wherein said sack is stitched to said tubular member.

15. (Previously Presented) The play accessory of claim 9 wherein said at least one magnet or a material attracted to a magnet is embedded within its respective free end.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Previously Presented) The toy of claim 19 wherein said first loop structures are keeper loops being closed loop structures.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) A toy comprising the combination of:

a keeper having a body portion and a plurality of first loop structures connected with said body and

at least one second loop structure manually connectable to one of said first loop structures, ~~at least one of said first loop structures and~~ said second loop structure having a pair of free ends which are engageable with one another to form said second loop structure, ~~and which are~~ said second loop structure being constructed of a material of sufficient stiffness and memory to cause said tubular member to assume and maintain said substantially closed loop configuration when said tubular member is unstressed, said free ends being manually separable from one another to connect said one second loop structure to one of the other of said first loop structures structure, and with said second loop structure extending through said one first loop structure and wherein each of said free ends includes a magnet or a material attracted to a magnet.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) A toy comprising:

a plurality of loop type members selectively interconnectable with one another, each of said loop type members comprising an elongated member having a first connection member comprising a magnet at a first position and a second connection member comprising a magnet or a material attracted to a magnet at a second position, said first and second connection members being connectable to one another to form said elongated member into a closed loop configuration and said first and second connection members being manually separable to selectively interconnect a plurality of said closed loop configurations together, with each closed loop configuration extending through the loop of an adjacent closed loop configuration.

22. (New) The toy of claim 9 wherein said plurality of structures are interconnected with one another, with the tubular member of one structure extending through the closed loop configuration of an adjacent structure.

23. (New) The toy of claim 22 wherein said magnet or material attracted to a magnet of one tubular member is not connectable to a magnet or material attracted to a magnet of another tubular member.

24. (New) The toy of clai 21 wherein said plurality of loop type members are interconnected with one another.

25. (New) The toy of claim 24 wherein said magnet or material attracted to a magnet of one elongated member is not connectable to a magnet or material attracted to a magnet of another elongated member.